

Wisconsin E-Brief for Title I Focus Schools

An e-newsletter from the Title I and School Support Team

August 2014

As part of our ongoing commitment to providing all Title I Focus Schools with consistent and timely information, the Title I and School Support Team will be providing regular e-newsletters to the principals, Indistar Process Managers, and Title I coordinators. We welcome suggestions about topics you would like addressed in future editions.

Principals! We strongly encourage you to have an Indistar Process Manager (IPM) to assist with your Focus School requirements. The IPM is the official record keeper of the school's improvement plan which is housed in Indistar. This position works best if it is a member of your school leadership team. If there are any changes in IPM since 2013-14, please notify your DPI Focus School Liaison.

The first date for Indistar monitoring is coming up on September 30!

By September 30, you will need to have **three** active objectives in Indistar. These objectives need to be aligned to Response to Intervention (RtI), Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS), and, for middle and high schools, Early Warning System (EWS).

Please use the **Submit** button on Indistar when your objectives are ready to be reviewed by DPI.

To navigate to the **Submit** button:

- Go to the school main page
- Choose the tab **Required Reports**
- Click the **Submit** button behind the appropriate deadline date. It is important that you click this button so that your Focus School Liaison will know that your work is complete and ready for review.

Indistar will also be monitored on January 15 and June 1, 2015. To review all of the Year 3 Focus School requirements, please see the Focus School Requirements 2014 -15 PowerPoint. This PowerPoint has been uploaded into Indistar and can also be found on the [Title I Focus School](#) web page.

We are not requiring, but we are highly recommending, that your staff take the **SIR** self-assessment through the RtI Center. This will show you your growth since the last time it was taken, most likely in 2012 or 2013. We encourage your staff to do this assessment annually.

Mark your calendar now!

DPI will hold its second **Title I Innovation and Implementation Conference**, October 28-29, 2014, at the Grand Geneva Resort in Lake Geneva. This will be two full days of support for your school improvement plan and your school leadership team!

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Focus School Grants

We will again be providing Focus Schools with a \$14,000 grant for continuous improvement planning using Indistar and ongoing professional development to improve student achievement.

Academic Parent-Teacher Teams (APTT) Grant Opportunity for Elementary and Middle Schools

The DPI Title I Team is sponsoring a grant exclusively for 10 Wisconsin Focus Schools. This grant will provide funding to support training and implementation for Academic Parent-Teacher Teams (APTTs) in your school - [APTT Video](#). The linked document, [Overview and Considerations for APTTs in Wisconsin](#), offers more specific information about the APTT process and funding.

Do you want to learn more about APTTs? Please join our Webinar on Thursday, August 7, 2015 from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. Join the Webinar at:

<https://sas.illuminate.com/m.jnlp?sid=2012293&password=M.CFE7C36547320BA5A548A6F89D7C43>

If you have questions, please feel free to contact either DPI Title I team member:

Ruth Anne Landsverk at (608) 266-9757, or ruthanne.landsverk@dpi.wi.gov

Mary Jo Ziegler at (608) 267-1281, or mary.ziegler@dpi.wi.gov

Professional Development Opportunities which may support your school improvement plan:

- Wisconsin Alliance for Cultural and Linguistic Diversity, Edgewood College,
 - WISACALD.org
- Wisconsin Statewide Mathematics Initiative courses,
 - www.WSMI.net

Other Resources:

- [DPI Title I Focus School Homepage](#)
- [Indistar indicators aligned to Rtl, PBIS, and EWS](#)
- Literacy Un-Conference: YouTube videos on important literacy topics
 - <https://sites.google.com/a/dpi.wi.gov/lituncon2014/>
- PBS Online Documentaries: FRONTLINE
 - <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/view/>
 - **Separate But Equal:** *Racial divide in American Schools*
 - **Middle School Moment:** *Middle school as the make-or-break precursor for high school drop-outs*
 - **Omarina's Story:** *Sequel to Middle School Moment film*
 - **Poor Kids:** *What poverty means to children and to the country's future*
 - **Drop out Nation:** *A portrait of students in crisis and those waging a daily struggle to graduate*
 - **When Kids Get Life:** *Child incarceration*